Paul's Voyage and Shipwreck

Acts 27:1-44

Intro: Luke's detailed account of the voyage and shipwreck of Paul on his way to Rome is considered one of the most descriptive pieces of literature in the New Testament, corresponding to the first chapter of Jonah in the Old Testament. The central verse is 27:24: God delivered Paul and all who sailed with Him from certain death and destruction. So too, Jesus delivers all who accept Him from certain death and destruction. Paul's witness in Rome fulfills the major theme of Acts—the triumph of the witness to Christ (1:8).

I. The Voyage from Caesarea to Crete 27:1-8

- A. Caesarea to Myra (vv. 1-5)
- B. Myra to Crete—Fair Havens (vv. 6-8)

II. The Voyage from Crete to Malta 27:9-26

- A. Advise of Paul rejected (vv. 9-13)
- B. A violent storm and lost hope (vv. 14-20)



Paul's Shipwreck on Malta

C. Angelic visitation and Paul's encouragement (vv. 21-26)

III. The Violent Shipwreck 27:27-44

- A. The sailors detect they are approaching land (vv. 27-29)
- B. The sailors' attempt to abandon ship stopped by Paul (vv. 30-31)
- C. The encouragement of Paul, and the ship's grounding (vv. 33-41)
- D. The prisoners and passengers are all spared from death (vv. 42-44)

Applications

- 1. We may not always experience smooth sailing, but we can trust God to bring us through the difficult storms of life. No matter what we may be facing, God desires to help us.
- 2. Our primary purpose in life is to bear witness of the resurrected Christ (Matt 28:19-20).
- 3. Jesus lives forevermore to deliver all who accept Him from certain death and destruction!